

SEPTEMBER 2024



THE BANNER

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BERTHOUD MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

From Pastors Mark and Sandie Johnson

Dear Friends,

One of things that distinguishes United Methodist churches from others is our theology of Holy Communion. John Wesley, our spiritual forebear, wrote that the Lord's Supper is "the grand channel whereby the grace of his Spirit was conveyed to the souls of all the children of God" (Sermon 26: "Upon Our Lord's Sermon on the Mount VI") Notice that he says God's grace is conveyed to our souls. We might already have an intellectual understanding of God's redeeming grace, but receiving Holy Communion helps us gain assurance of the forgiveness of our sins and assurance of salvation at the deepest core of who we are. In another sermon, Wesley wrote "As our bodies are strengthened by bread and wine, so are our souls by these tokens of the body and blood of Christ. This is the food of our souls: this gives strength to perform our duty, and leads us on to perfection. ("The Duty of Constant Communion")

Wesley, and his early followers, received communion at least weekly as well as daily during the twelve days of Christmas and the eight days following Easter. Our congregation typically shares communion twice a month (first and third Sundays) as well as other times during the year.

Steve Manskar, in his online discussion of communion found at <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/blog/a-wesleyan-practice-of-holy-communion> makes an interesting point: "the Wesleyan altar call is the invitation to the Lord's table." Other faith traditions end worship with an invitation

to come forward and give one's life to Jesus. I have done that and found it to be very powerful.

However, in United Methodist tradition, we invite everyone to

come forward to receive Holy Communion and, in so doing, accept the grace God is already offering. Receiving Holy Communion is not our initiating a relationship with God through Jesus Christ but is rather our ratification, our acceptance, of the redeeming grace God has initiated and is continually offering.



A key phrase from the first Wesleyan quote says that communion is a channel of God's grace to all God's children. In United Methodist tradition, this means that Holy Communion is open to everyone regardless of all the categories, descriptors, and labels that are often used to divide us. As I talk with church members, old and new, about what they appreciate about United Methodism, by far the most common reply has to do with open communion. Everyone is invited. All God's children means all God's children.

The hospitality of open communion is one more way that we, the people of the First United Methodist Church of Berthoud, are open and welcoming to all. We can handle differing backgrounds, experiences, and points of view. We know the people of our worshipping community are wise, capable,

and can be trusted to form their own opinions. We believe that we are each wonderfully gifted by our Creator God through the Holy Spirit and that we need each other.

We also know people who are stumbling, confused and drifting through life who need the strong anchor of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Are you willing to begin to pray, by name, for those people and – when the time is right – invite them to worship with you? We will be talking more about this during worship in the coming weeks but now,

today, can you begin to pray for the people God will be sending to this church?

Sandie and I feel so blessed to be able to serve in ministry with you. May God continue to guide, direct, and bless you and yours.

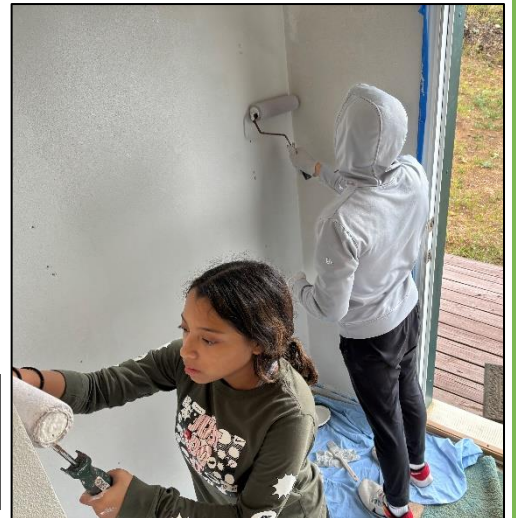
See you Sunday!

Grace and Peace,
Mark and Sandie

A LOOK BACK AT AUGUST



Several volunteers made their way to Camp Buckhorn on August 9th to get it looking beautiful.





The United Women In Faith always manage to find the best places to visit. Last month it was a firehouse museum, and this month it was the bronze sculpture foundry, Art Castings, in Loveland. If you're upset that you missed this outing, they'll be going again on September 5th.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

From Randy, As Promised Linda Henderson's Dilly Dip Recipe

- ¾ cup mayonnaise
- ¾ cup sour cream
- 1 tablespoon dried parsley flakes
- 1 tablespoon dried minced onion
- 1 teaspoon Beau Monde seasoning
- 1 teaspoon dill weed



Potluck Picnic At The Pastors' House – Saturday, August 31

We had so much fun at the picnic in July that Pastors Mark and Sandie would like to invite you to another picnic at their house on Saturday, August 31st from noon to 2 PM. Pastor Mark will be grilling, and you are invited to bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share. Bringing a chair is also a great idea.

Volunteer Ministry Opportunity with HNS



The House of Neighborly Service is looking for people who can work in the food pantry on Tuesdays from 1-5:00 PM. Volunteers must be able to be on their feet the entire time and lift up to 30 pounds. To volunteer, please contact the House of Neighborly Service at 970-532-0161.

Reorganization Update And Leaders

The All-Church Conference on August 18, 2024 approved the congregational reorganization plan the leadership of our church has been working on since the beginning of the year. Under the new plan, the responsibilities of the Staff Parish Relations Team, Trustees, Finance Team, and Church Council would be entrusted to a nine-person Leadership Team. This change, as provided for in the Book of Discipline, would allow our church to lead the church more effectively and efficiently.



The All-Church Conference also approved the Nominating Team's slate of candidates to serve on the Leadership Team. Our new Leadership Team members will be:

Barb Howell (Co-chair)

Ric Haskins (Co-chair)

Stu Boyd (Lay Leader)

Sue Radway

Gina Spaur

Sandy Anderson

Annie Arnstad

Barbara Boyd

Faith Smith

Although our Church's governance structure has been modified, our program committees will continue to do the vital ministry of the church. Church members are invited to attend Leadership Team meetings unless confidential issues (such as staff concerns) are being discussed. Visitors will be invited to share opinions and insight with the team but will not have a vote. Appointed and retired United Methodist clergy will be ex-officio members with voice but no vote.

There will, no doubt, be some growing pains as we move into this new governance model and everyone's patience will be appreciated. If you have any questions, please talk to either of the Co-chairs, the Lay Leader, or the Pastors.



150th Anniversary Celebration

First United Methodist Church in Berthoud, Colorado was founded in 1874 and later this year we will celebrate our 150th anniversary. Plans are being made to celebrate this milestone, and more information will be forthcoming.

Denny Schachterle's 80th Birthday!

Denny Schachterle will turn 80 on September 4th.

A card shower would be the perfect gift! Send cards to:

Denny Schachterle, 2520 W CR 4, Berthoud, CO 80513



United Methodist Men (UMM) – Saturday, September 7

All the men of the church are invited to gather for a “dutch treat” breakfast at Grandpa’s (903 Mountain Avenue in Berthoud) on Saturday, September 7 at 9 AM. Come and join in the laughter, fun, fellowship and service. Talk to Ric Haskins at (303) 818-2577 if you have questions.



Fall BBQ – Sunday, September 8

You are invited to a Fall BBQ after worship on Sunday, September 8. The United Methodist Men (UMM) will provide the meat, and everyone else is invited to bring a side dish, salad or dessert.

Sunday School for Children and Youth

The Children and Youth Sunday School program will resume on September 8th. Children from kindergarten through high school will be invited to join Sunday School programming in our upstairs classrooms during Sunday worship.



Start Baking! The Craft and Food Fair is next month!

Ladies and Gentlemen, tune up your baking skills for the Craft and Food Fair on October 12th from 9AM to 2PM. We'll have baked goods, noodles, kraut burgers, angel food cakes, and lunch from 11AM to 1PM. Bring your baked goods to help the UWIF.

SMALL GROUPS

United Women In Faith (Formerly United Methodist Women)

The mission of the United Women In Faith is to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.



- **UWIF Executive Board Meeting:** Every 2nd Wednesday – 9:00 AM in the Library
- **Hope Circle:** Every 2nd Thursday – 1:30 PM in the Library
- **Early Bird Circle:** Every 3rd Saturday – 8:00 AM in the Library

United Methodist Men

United Methodist Men is a creative, supportive fellowship of men who seek to know Jesus Christ, to grow spiritually, and to daily seek God’s will. Our primary purpose is to declare the centrality of Christ in the lives of men and in all their relationships. If you would like to be involved with the Berthoud United Methodist Men, please e-mail Ric Haskins at rghask@aol.com.



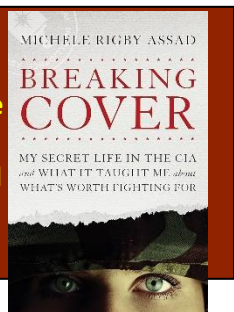
Wednesday Workers

The Wednesday Workers are men and women who maintain the building and grounds, and prepare the sanctuary and Sunday School rooms for Sunday.



Spanish Class will meet in the Library on Tuesdays at 10:30 AM.

The Book Club will meet Thursday, September 26 at 7:00 P.M. to discuss Breaking Cover: My Secret Life in the CIA and What It Taught Me about What's Worth Fighting For by Michell Rigby Assad. See Barbara Boyd for a copy of the book.



Caring Connections helps to care for the needs of our congregation. All are welcome to join us! Meetings are held in the Library at **9:00 AM on the first Wednesday every month.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL MINISTRY



Youth and Children Sunday School

Sunday School for children and youth will resume on September 8th.

Exploring the Bible, led by Keith Henderson, meets Sundays at 8:30 AM in the Builder's Room. All are welcome to join us!

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR



Day	Date	Time – Event – Location
Sunday	1	8:30 AM – Exploring the Bible Adult Sunday School, Builder's Room 10:00 AM – Worship
Tuesday	3	OFFICE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY
		10:30 AM – Spanish Class, Library 5:30 PM – Handbell Choir Rehearsal, 3 rd Floor Classroom
Wednesday	4	9:00 AM – Caring Connections, Library 6:30 PM – Coping With Estrangement Support Group, Builder's Room
Thursday	5	9:30 AM – UWIF Visit to Art Castings
Saturday	7	9:00 AM – UMM at Grandpa's
Sunday	8	8:30 AM – Exploring the Bible Adult Sunday School, Builder's Room 10:00 AM – Worship, Children and Youth Sunday School 11:15 AM – Fall BBQ, Fellowship Hall
Tuesday	10	10:30 AM – Spanish Class, Library 5:30 PM – Handbell Choir Rehearsal, 3rd Floor Classroom 6:30 PM – Leadership Team Meeting, Van Amburg Hall
Wednesday	11	9:00 AM – UWIF Executive Board Meeting, Library 6:30 PM – Coping With Estrangement Support Group, Builder's Room
Thursday	12	1:30 PM – Hope Circle, Library
Sunday	15	8:30 AM – Exploring the Bible Adult Sunday School, Builder's Room 10:00 AM – Worship, Children and Youth Sunday School
Tuesday	17	10:30 AM – Spanish Class, Library 5:30 PM – Handbell Choir Rehearsal, 3rd Floor Classroom
Wednesday	18	10:00 AM – Pastor Chat Time, Pastors' Office 2:30 PM – Deaf Bible Study, Online over Zoom 6:30 PM – Coping With Estrangement Support Group, Builder's Room
Saturday	21	8:00 AM – UWIF Early Birds, Library
Sunday	22	8:30 AM – Exploring the Bible Adult Sunday School, Builder's Room 10:00 AM – Worship, Children and Youth Sunday School MISSION SUNDAY
Tuesday	24	10:30 AM – Spanish Class, Library 5:30 PM – Handbell Choir Rehearsal, 3rd Floor Classroom
Wednesday	25	10:00 AM – Pastor Chat Time, Pastors' Office 2:30 PM – Deaf Bible Study, Online over Zoom 6:30 PM – Coping With Estrangement Support Group, Builder's Room
Thursday	26	7:00 PM – Book Club Meeting, Van Amburg Hall
Sunday	29	8:30 AM – Exploring the Bible Adult Sunday School, Builder's Room 10:00 AM – Worship, Children and Youth Sunday School

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

September 3	Adam Dueker	September 13	Drake Vining
September 3	Denny and Lynda Schachterle (A)	September 16	Sandy Anderson
September 4	Denny Schachterle	September 16	Robert and Elizabeth Kearney (A)
September 6	Donna Short	September 20	Annie Arnstad
September 8	Davon Cook	September 20	Lindsay Reece
September 9	Rudy Glick	September 23	Kris-Ellen Corzine
September 11	Kathy Pickert	September 28	Mike and Christine Thoren (A)



Please keep us informed about your joys and sorrows. Many are in need of prayer (both in public and in private). Call the office and we will notify the appropriate contact and add your name to the Prayer Corner of the Sunday bulletin. We are here to serve God, and we want to share your burdens and joys. Phone: 970-532-2142. Email: secretary@berthoudumc.org, pastormark@berthoudumc.org or pastorsandie@berthoudumc.org.

First United Methodist Church of Berthoud

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Phone: 970-532-2142

Church email: secretary@berthoudumc.org

Website: www.BerthoudUMC.org

Pastor email: PastorMark@berthoudumc.org

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/berthoudumc/>

PastorSandie@berthoudumc.org

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJqSxMBHmcpSPv5SldlcyAg>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/berthoudmethodistchurchon9th>